

SON-2199

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Patent Application of)
Xavier MICHEL)
Application No.: To Be Assigned) Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned
Filed: August 22, 2001) Examiner: To Be Assigned
For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS,)
IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, AND)
STORAGE MEDIUM)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING FILING

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 32, consisting of Figs. 32A to 32B, is a diagram illustrating the right and left diagonal energy calculated in steps 182 and S183 in Fig. 30;

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 17 with the following rewritten paragraph:

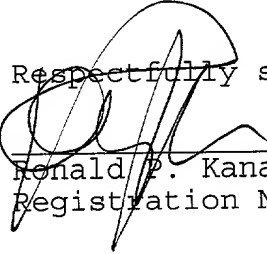
Fig. 33, consisting of Figs. 33A to 33B, is a diagram illustrating the process performed in step S187 shown in Fig. 30 and the process performed in step S192 shown in Fig. 31;

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is requested to accurately identify the drawings. No new matter has been added. Entry of this amendment is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 22, 2001



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APPENDIXIN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 32, consisting of Figs. 32A to 32B, is a diagram illustrating the right and left diagonal energy calculated in steps 182 and S183 in Fig. 30;

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 17 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 33, consisting of Figs. 33A to 33B, is a diagram illustrating the process performed in step S187 shown in Fig. 30 and the process performed in step S192 shown in Fig. 31;